

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

OPR-02 DRC-01 /127 W

----- 051272

R 061122Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0786

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 9894

BEIRUT POUCH BAGHDAD

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI POPULACE BRACES FOR RENEWED HOSTILITIES

1. AS OUR REPORTING HAS REFLECTED, ISRAELIS IN RECENT DAYS HAVE BEEN TALKING ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ABOUT TWO THINGS: A) DOMESTIC POLITICS, AS ELECTION CAMPAIGN SHIFTS INTO HIGH GEAR, AND B) MID EAST PEACE EFFORTS, AS DATES OF GENEVA CONF AND SECRETARY'S VISIT TO AREA APPROACH. BUT THIS DOES NOT SHOW WHAT IS REALLY IN FOREFRONT OF THEIR MINDS, WHICH IS A FOREBODING THAT WAR MAY BREAK OUT AGAIN AT ANY MOMENT.

2. IF ANYTHING WAS NEEDED TO CONFIRM ISRAELIS' WORST EXPECTATIONS, IT WAS REAPPEARANCE AROUND TEL AVIV THIS MORNING OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS, WHICH HAD BEEN REMOVED ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO (DAO IS REPORTING ON THIS DEVELOPMENT SEPARATELY).

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3. ISRAELI PUBLIC IS CONFUSED ABOUT REASONS WHY EGYPT MIGHT

DECIDE TO RESUME FIGHTING AND IS ASKING WHAT SADAT THINKS
HE COULD GAIN. IN PROCESS, ISRAELIS TAKE FOR GRANTED THAT
EGYPT HAS NO BASIS WHATEVER FOR COMPLAINT OVER ISRAELI
SIDE'S CONTRIBUTION TO KILOMETER 101 TALKS, AND THAT ANY
EGYPTIANS ASSERTION THAT ISRAEL DID NOT TRY HARD ENOUGH TO
BRING ABOUT DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES IS SIMPLY HYPOCRITICAL
PROPAGANDA. THEY THEREFORE SPECULATE THAT SADAT, IF HE HAS
NO LEGITIMATE GRIEVANCE AGAINST ISRAEL, IS MAKING WAR NOISES EITHER
IN HOPES OF SCARING US INTO SQUEEZING ISRAEL FOR CONCESSIONS OR
BECAUSE HE ACTUALLY PREFERS WAR AND HAS NO INTENTION OF
SERIOUSLY PURSUING NEGOTIATIONS AND POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
ROUTE.
KEATING

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Message Attributes

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